

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**STATE OF MAINE
119TH LEGISLATURE**

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

**BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

JULY 1999

MEMBERS:

Sen. Georgette B. Berube, Chair

Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.

Sen. Mary E. Small

Rep. Michael F. Brennan, Chair

Rep. Shirley K. Richard

Rep. Mabel J. Desmond

Rep. James G. Skoglund

Rep. Elizabeth Watson

Rep. Christina L. Baker

Rep. Vaughn A. Stedman.

Rep. Irvin G. Belanger

Rep. Mary Black Andrews

Rep. Carol Weston

Staff:

Phillip D. McCarthy, Ed.D., Legislative Analyst

***Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101/107/135, 13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
(207)287-1670***



Maine State Legislature
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

13 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0013
Telephone: (207) 287-1670
Fax: (207) 287-1275

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Summary Of Legislation Before The Joint Standing and Select Committees
August 1999

We are pleased to provide this summary of all bills that were considered by the Joint Standing and Select Committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing and select committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is organized by committees and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet (www.state.me.us/legis/opla).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

CARRIED OVER.....Bill carried over to Second Regular Session
CON RES XXX..... Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.....Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES.....House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE..... One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT.....Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY..... Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
ENACTMENT FAILED..... Bill failed to get vote required for enactment or final passage
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY..... Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP..... Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP ND..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
OTP ND/NT..... Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft/New Title
P&S XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PUBLIC XXX..... Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX..... Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED.....Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the First Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is September 18, 1999.

LD 1346 proposes that when the voters in a School Administrative District (SAD) that has adopted the alternative budget referendum process initially fail to adopt their budget by referendum, the board of directors of the SAD are required to resubmit their budget proposal using the referendum process. Under current law the directors can decide to bring the budget to a second or subsequent vote at an open meeting rather than by referendum. This bill also proposes that a budget proposal submitted a third time may not be greater than the previous school year's budget plus an increase adjusted for the Consumer Price Index. For a budget submitted more than three times, the bill proposes that the budget proposal submitted to referendum must be lower than the proposal made at the previous referendum. The State Board of Education has been requested by committee letter to review and report to the committee next session on this bill and other related school governance and budget issues.

LD 1348

An Act to Ensure Support Services for Teachers Serving Under a Certification Waiver

PUBLIC 238

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CATHCART BAKER	OTP-AM	S-165

LD 1348 proposed to establish a process for the approval of any waiver of rules administered by the Department of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-165) proposed to replace the bill and to expand the responsibilities of school support systems to include services for developing good teaching and classroom management skills for teachers serving under a certification waiver. This amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note and a mandate preamble to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 238 expands the responsibilities of school support systems to include services for developing good teaching and classroom management skills for teachers serving under a certification waiver.

LD 1354

An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Conflict of Interest

PUBLIC 128

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BELANGER	OTP-AM	H-186

LD 1354 proposed to clarify the situations in which a school board member or a member's spouse may be an employee or volunteer at a school within the jurisdiction of the school board to which the member is elected. Board members and spouses would be able to serve as unpaid volunteers if not under the direct supervision of an administrator who is directly accountable to the school board. Employment as a substitute teacher in a stipend position or in a salaried or hourly capacity would still be prohibited.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Education.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-186) proposed to clarify that the situations in which a school board member or a member's spouse may not serve as a volunteer in a public school within the jurisdiction of that school board are limited to situations in which the volunteer has primary responsibility for a curricular, cocurricular or extracurricular program or activity and also reports directly to a school administrator.

Enacted law summary